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2. New Zentrum Party in East Germany

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1. East German Minister-President Otto Grotewohl will deliver another government statement on the political situation in East and West Germany in the near future, but it is unlikely that he will introduce any new positive moves into the picture. He will probably limit himself to claims that West Germany will not be a sovereign state once the contractual agreement is signed, and will denounce Theodor Blank's conscription program. This statement may be made on 30 January 1952. The East German government press section has been collecting quotes from Western papers for use in Grotewohl's speech.
2. A Zentrum Party is to be established soon in East Germany as the most suitable vehicle for exploiting the dissident elements of the Zentrum Party in West Germany. Candidates for head of this new party are Professor Rauer of the Academy of Sciences, Magnus Dedek, Head of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in Saxony, and Max Schmidt, the secretary of the CDU in Saxony.*

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4. On 24 January, Georg Dertinger had on his desk a draft of a speech which he was to give to the CDU Political Committee on 28 January. The draft was full of red-pencillings which, according to Dertinger, had come from Soviet Ambassador Semenov. One sentence which was completely eliminated by Semenov was "The Germany that is to come will be without fail a peace-loving, democratic Germany, which will belong to the peace camp and live in closest friendship with the USSR." Dertinger said that Semenov had remarked, "It is too early to say that, you would alienate all West Germany with such a statement."
5. On 22 January, in an unofficial statement, Dertinger posed the question: "What is the explanation for Vishinsky's departure from the Paris U. N. sessions?" He then answered himself with a second question: "Could it mean that the USSR would not want its Foreign Minister abroad at a critical moment?"

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